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distributor, final distributor, or multiple distributor, who distributes a device subject to tracking, who fails to comply with any applicable requirement of section 519(e) of the act or of this part, or any person who causes such failure, misbrands the device within the meaning of section 501(t)(2) of the act and commits a prohibited act within the meaning of sections 301(e) and 301(q)(1)(B) of the act.

(d) Any person subject to this part who permanently discontinues doing business is required to notify FDA at the time the person notifies any government agency, court, or supplier, and provide FDA with a complete set of its tracking records and information. However, if a person ceases distribution of a tracked device but continues to do other business, that person continues to be responsible for compliance with this part unless another person, affirmatively and in writing, assumes responsibility for continuing the tracking of devices previously distributed under this part. Further, if a person subject to this part goes out of business completely, but other persons acquire the right to manufacture or distribute tracked devices, those other persons are deemed to be responsible for continuing the tracking responsibility of the previous person under this

[58 FR 43447, Aug. 16, 1993, as amended at 67 FR 5951, Feb. 8, 2002]

§821.2 Exemptions and variances.

- (a) A manufacturer, importer, or distributor may seek an exemption or variance from one or more requirements of this part.
- (b) A request for an exemption or variance shall be submitted in the form of a petition under §10.30 of this chapter and shall comply with the requirements set out therein, except that a response shall be issued in 90 days. The Director or Deputy Directors, CDRH, or the Director, Office of Compliance, CDRH, shall issue responses to requests under this section. The petition shall also contain the following:
- (1) The name of the device and device class and representative labeling showing the intended use(s) of the device;

- (2) The reasons that compliance with the tracking requirements of this part is unnecessary;
- (3) A complete description of alternative steps that are available, or that the petitioner has already taken, to ensure that an effective tracking system is in place; and
- (4) Other information justifying the exemption or variance.
- (c) An exemption or variance is not effective until the Director, Office of Compliance and Surveillance, CDRH, approves the request under §10.30(e)(2)(i) of this chapter.

[58 FR 43447, Aug. 16, 1993, as amended at 59 FR 31138, June 17, 1994; 67 FR 5951, Feb. 8, 2002]

§821.3 Definitions.

The following definitions and terms apply to this part:

- (a) Act means the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 321 et seq., as amended.
- (b) *Importer* means the initial distributor of an imported device who is subject to a tracking order. "Importer" does not include anyone who only furthers the marketing, e.g., brokers, jobbers, or warehousers.
- (c) Manufacturer means any person, including any importer, repacker and/ or relabeler, who manufactures, prepares, propagates, compounds, assembles, or processes a device or engages in any of the activities described in §807.3(d) of this chapter.
- (d) Device failure means the failure of a device to perform or function as intended, including any deviations from the device's performance specifications or intended use.
- (e) Serious adverse health consequences means any significant adverse experience related to a device, including device-related events which are lifethreatening or which involve permanent or long-term injuries or illnesses.
- (f) Device intended to be implanted in the human body for more than 1 year means a device that is intended to be placed into a surgically or naturally formed cavity of the human body for more than 1 year to continuously assist, restore, or replace the function of an organ system or structure of the human body throughout the useful life